

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

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TAGS: PGOV, PINT, TW
SUBJECT: HOW PRESIDENT CHIANG WILL GOVERN

1. Y. S. TSIANG, SECRETARY-GENERAL IN THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT, COMMENTED TO ECON COUN MAY 25 THAT PRESIDENT CHIANG CHING-KUO DOES NOT PROPOSE TO BECOME INVOLVED IN DETAILS OF GROC ADMINISTRATION. PRESIDENT VIEWS HIS POSITION AS THAT OF BROAD POLICY MAKER AND ARBITER OF SERIOUS DISPUTES AMONG CONFLICTING OR COMPETING INTERESTS. PRESIDENT WILL DEPEND ON PREMIER Y. S. SUN TO ENSURE THAT MINISTRIES AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES PROVIDE HONEST AND EFFICIENT SERVICE AND THAT THEY EXECUTE FAITHFULLY POLICY GUIDELINES LAID DOWN BY THE PRESIDENT.

2. TSIANG STATED THAT PRESIDENT IS VERY METHODICAL IN HIS WORK HABITS. TSIANG WILL MEET WITH HIM DAILY IN THE MORNING AND IT IS LIKELY THAT PREMIER SUN WILL HAVE AUDIENCE EVERY OTHER DAY. PRESIDENT PLANS TO HAVE FORMAL SESSION EVERY OTHER WEEK WITH SENIOR OFFICIALS IN FOLLOWING AREAS: POLITICAL AFFAIRS, MILITARY AFFAIRS, GENERAL AFFAIRS AND ECONOMIC/FINANCIAL AFFAIRS. PURPOSE OF MEETINGS
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WILL BE TO BRIEF PRESIDENT ON DEVELOPMENTS IN THOSE AREAS AND TO OBTAIN GENERAL POLICY GUIDANCE FROM PRESIDENT. PREMIER AND SECRETARY-GENERAL OF EXECUTIVE YUAN WILL PARTICIPATE IN ALL SESSIONS. OTHER ATTENDEES MAY VARY DEPENDING ON AGENDA. FOR EXAMPLE, K. H. YU, GOVERNOR OF CENTRAL BANK AND CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL FOR ECONOMIC PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT, AND MINISTERS OF

ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND FINANCE WILL AUTOMATICALLY ATTEND SESSIONS DEVOTED TO DISCUSSION OF ECONOMIC/ FINANCIAL MATTERS BUT ROBERT LEE, CHAIRMAN OF JCRR, WOULD NOT ATTEND UNLESS DEVELOPMENTS IN AGRICULTURAL SECTOR WERE ON THE AGENDA.

3. TSIANG HASTENED TO ASSURE ECON COUN THAT PRESIDENT'S WAY OF DOING BUSINESS DOES NOT MEAN THAT PREMIER WILL LACK INFLUENCE. Y.S. SUN WILL PARTICIPATE IN ALL DECISIONS, AND HE WILL BE FULLY IN CHARGE OF MACHINERY OF GOVERNMENT. PRESIDENT'S DECISION TO SCHEDULE PERIODIC MEETINGS WITH SENIOR OFFICIALS WAS MADE TO ENSURE NOT ONLY THAT HE IS KEPT INFORMED OF BROAD SPECTRUM OF DEVELOPMENTS AND ISSUES BUT ALSO TO GIVE THOSE OFFICIALS THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET PERSONALLY WITH HIM. HE DOES NOT WANT THOSE OFFICIALS TO FEEL THAT THEY HAVE A PRESIDENT WHO LIVES IN AN IVORY TOWER.

4. ECON COUN ASKED TSIANG IF PRESIDENT WOULD BE TAKING MORE INTEREST IN SOME AREAS THAN IN OTHERS SINCE HE OBVIOUSLY CAN'T DEVOTE EQUAL TIME TO ALL. TSIANG AVERRED THAT PRESIDENT UNDOUBTEDLY WILL TAKE KEEN INTEREST IN FOREIGN POLICY DEVELOPMENTS AND IN IMPROVING ROC DEFENSE POSTURE. HE HAS GREAT CONFIDENCE IN ABILITY OF PREMIER SUN, K. H. YU, ET AL. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO MANAGE ECONOMY, AND HE WILL RELY HEAVILY ON PREMIER TO KEEP OTHER PROGRAMS FUNCTIONING SMOOTHLY, I.E., EDUCATION, ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE AND TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS. PRESIDENT ALSO WILL PLAY ACTIVE ROLE IN STRENGTHENING KMT. A POLITICAL ORGANIZATION MUST BE RESPONSIVE TO NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE IT REPRESENTS OR IT LOSES CREDIBILITY. 5. ASKED TO DEFINE HIS OWN ROLE AS SECRETARY-GENERAL TSIANG STATED THAT HIS POSITION HAS NOT BEEN DEFINED. HE WILL, OF COURSE, WORK CLOSELY WITH KMT SINCE HE IS A MEMBER OF CENTRAL STANDING COMMITTEE. AS SOON AS HIS DUTIES ARE MORE PRECISELY SPELLED OUT, HE PROMISED TO LET ECON COUN KNOW. HE ALSO STATED THE HOPE THAT CLOSE RELATIONSHIP THAT HAS DEVELOPED OVER THE YEARS BETWEEN ECON COUN AND HIMSELF WILL NOT DETERIORATE MERELY BECAUSE HE HAS MOVED TO OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENCY. UNGER

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